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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY Poland

REPORT

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SUBJECT Swinoujscie: Ship Sightings; Soviet Antiaircraft Battery

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REQUIREMENT

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PLACE ACQUIRED

REFERENCES

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1. The following Soviet ships were seen in Swinoujscie (Swinemuende)

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a. The sub-chasers (Dezorowce) lay along the eastern side of the harbor canal, south of the entrance to the eastern dock. These were the largest vessels in the harbor, and by far the most heavily armed; the guns observed on the fore and aft decks being of about 85 mm. caliber. The ships were frozen into the water.

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b. On the western side of the harbor canal and further to the south there were seven torpedo cutters, and in the shipyard basin there were six to eight of these craft.

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c. In the eastern dock eight trawlers were observed

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d. One motor torpedo boat was seen

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2. A little to the south of the town and to the west of the harbor canal there is a small island in the so-called Polish part of the harbor.¹ The island is still under Polish administration, but the Russians have installed a six-gun antiaircraft battery with a Soviet crew, and it appears evident that the Soviets will take over this part of the harbor.

3. The guns are all of about 100 mm. caliber or more, and are built into strong positions where they are normally not visible, being kept below ground when not in use and mechanically raised for firing. The guns are distributed over the island some distance away from each other and very well camouflaged. The whole island is guarded only by Russians, and Poles are not permitted access. The battery once fired at approaching aircraft during a night exercise, which enabled gun positions to be observed. The island is fairly flat and sandy, and the gun emplacements are built of iron and concrete.

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4. There are several old and a few newly built houses and barracks, particularly in the northern part of the island. Some have concrete foundations and are used for stores such as ammunition and guns. At least one such building is occupied by a Soviet military unit of about 50 men.

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[redacted] Comment: [redacted] it appears that the island referred to is Eichstaden.

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